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# Deploying Highly Resilient IP Networks

Session IPS-211


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## “The Janitor Pulled the Plug...”

- Why was he allowed near equipment?
- Why was problem noticed only afterward?
- Why did it take 6 weeks to determine problem?
- Why wasn't there redundant power?
- Why wasn't there network redundancy?



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## What Is High Availability?

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When the Proportion of the Total Operating Time a Network Is Functional  $\geq 99.999\%$

Availability	DPM	Downtime Per Year (24x7x365)		
99.000%	10K	3 Days	15 Hours	36 Minutes
99.500%	5K	1 Day	19 Hours	48 Minutes
99.900%	1000		8 Hours	46 Minutes
99.950%	500		4 Hours	23 Minutes
99.990%	100			53 Minutes
99.999%	10			5 Minutes
99.9999%	1			30 Seconds

Five 9's  
or More



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## How Do We Get There?

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**“In the Internet era, reliability is becoming something you have to build, not something you buy. That's hard work, and it requires intelligence, skills and budget. Reliability is not part of the basic package.”**

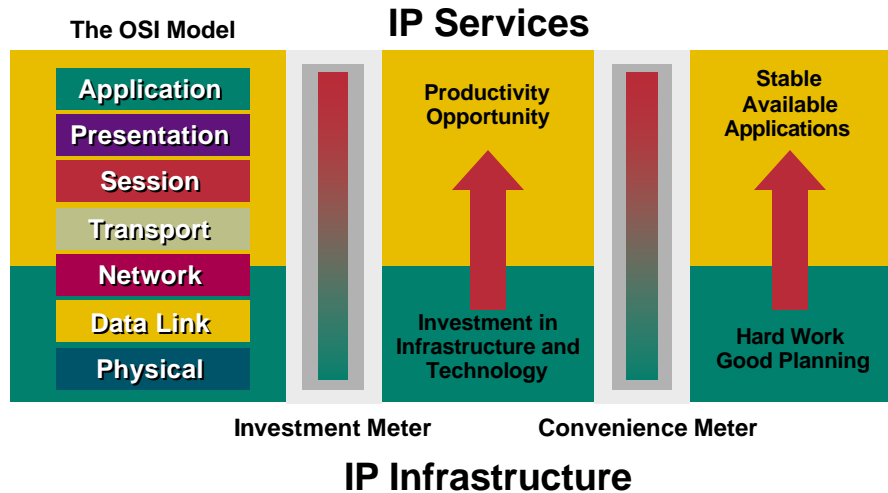
Joel Snyder – Network World Test Alliance 1/ 10/00  
“Reliability: Something you build, not buy”

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## Building Availability

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## The Three-legged Stool

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- Designing the network with resiliency in mind
- Using technology to identify and eliminate single points of failure
- Having processes in place to reduce the risk of human error
- All of these elements are necessary, and all interact with each other



Design



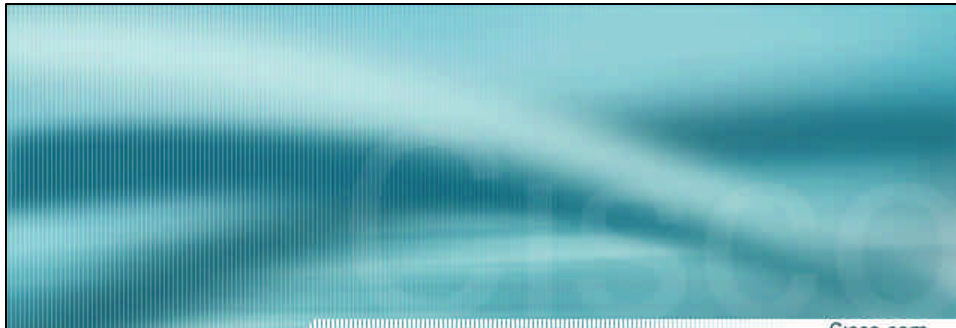
Technology



Process

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# Design and Technology

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## The Basics: Platform and Environment



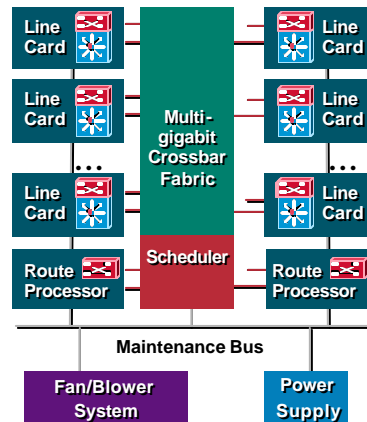
- Redundant power
- Redundant cooling
- 1:1 or N:1 card redundancy
- Redundant route processors
- Redundant switch fabric
- Environmental controls
- Power environment
- Cabling

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## Platform Redundancy: Cisco 12000 GSR



- NEBS Level 3 compliant
- Automatic protection switching (APS)/Multiplex Section Protection (MSP)
- Hot swap capability
- Redundancy
  - Dual-route processors
  - Switch fabric redundancy
  - Redundant power supplies
  - Redundant cooling systems
  - Line card protection
- Maintenance bus



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## Effects of the Physical Plant



- MTBF
- Temperature/humidity /electronic noise
- Redundant power
- Color coding
- Device card/chassis access
- Cable labels
- Documentation
- Eliminate “The Janitor Effect”



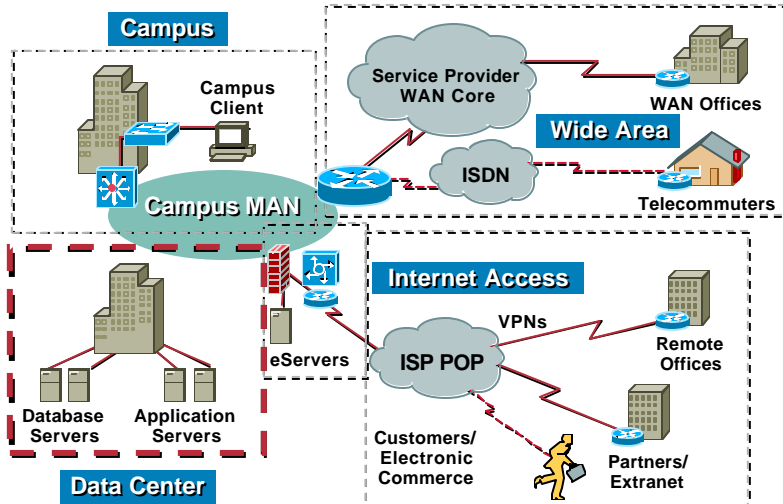
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## Data Center Availability



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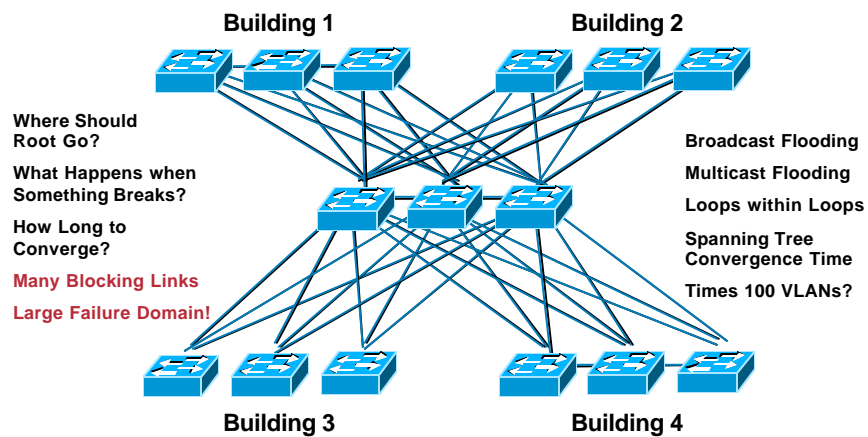
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## Backbone from Hell



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Avoid Highly Meshed, Non-Deterministic Large Scale L2



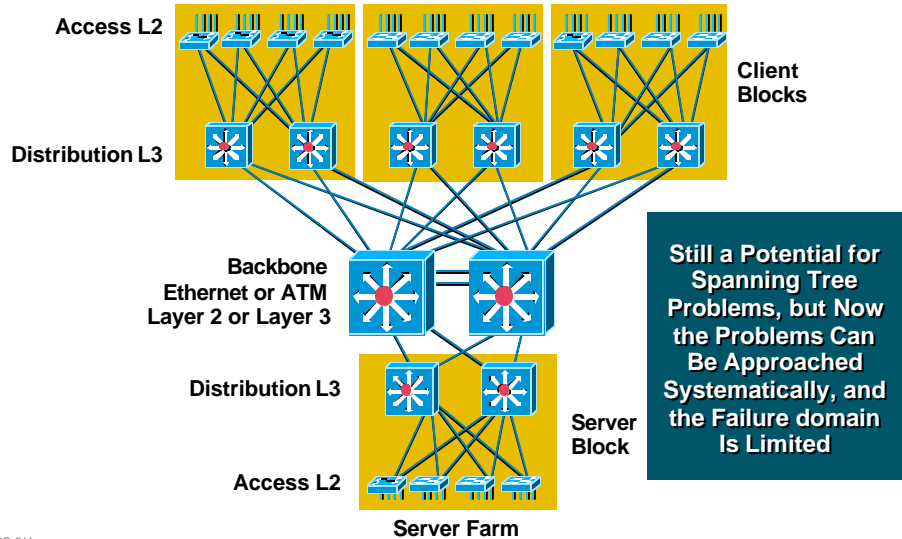
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## Typical (Better) Backbone



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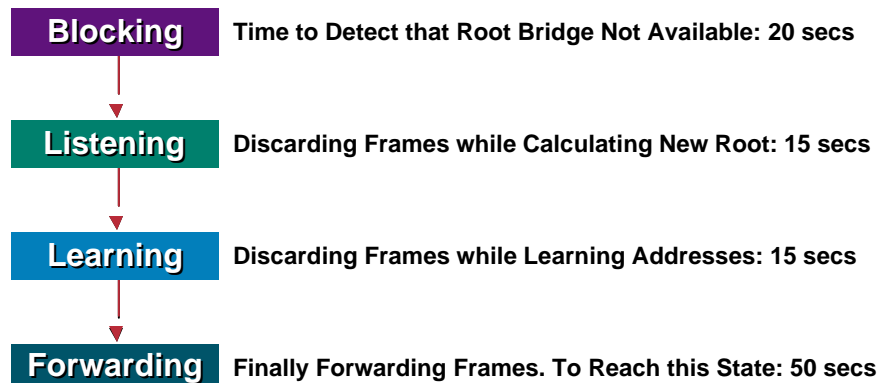
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## Why Is Spanning Tree A Problem?



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### Spanning Tree State Machine



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## Accelerating STP Recovery



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- In a highly redundant L2 network, spanning tree recalculation can cause significant delays
- Two Cisco technologies can help alleviate this delay:
  - Ether Channel for fast or gigabit ethernet
  - Spanning tree optimizations: UplinkFast, PortFast and BackboneFast

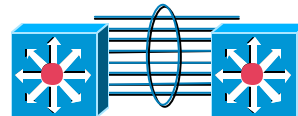
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## EtherChannel®



- Minimizes risk of link failure leading to spanning tree reconfiguration
- Increased availability
- Sub second recovery
- Single L2 STP link
- Single L3 subnet



Supported on the  
Catalyst Family as  
Well as Cisco IOS

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## Configuring EtherChannel



### On a Catalyst 6XXX:

```
Console> (enable) set port channel 2/2-8 mode desirable
Ports 2/2-8 left admin_group 1.
Ports 2/2-8 joined admin_group 2.
Console> (enable)
```

### On a Cisco 7500:

```
Router(config)# interface port-channel 1
Router(config)# ip address 10.0.0.1 255.255.255.0
Router(config)# ip route-cache distributed
Router(config)# interface fasteth 0/0
Router(config)# no ip address
Router(config)# channel-group 1
Router(config)# interface fasteth 0/1
Router(config)# no ip address
Router(config)# channel-group 1
FastEthernet 0/1 added as member-2 to fechannel1
```

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## Spanning Tree Optimizations



**PortFast:** Allows a port on a switch to which an end station is attached to proceed directly to forwarding state

```
set spantree portfast 1/1 enable
set spantree portfast bpduguard enable
```

**UplinkFast:** Allows a wiring closet switch to transition a backup link directly into forwarding state

```
set spantree uplinkfast enable rate 40
```

**BackboneFast:** Allows a distribution or core switch to proactively seek out a new path to the STP root bridge

```
set spantree backbonefast enable
show spantree backbonefast
```

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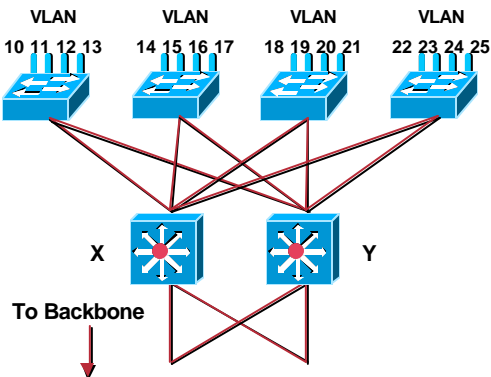
## Reduce Unnecessary Peering



- **Problem: Routers peer across each wiring closet VLAN**
- **Passive interfaces reduce peering overhead**

4 VLANs per Wiring Closet  
16 VLANs Total  
16 Routed Paths between X and Y  
Routing Overhead \*16  
Impacts Convergence Time

**Solution: Make Wiring Closet VLAN Interfaces Passive on Routers X and Y**



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## Using Passive Interfaces



- **Using passive interfaces at the distribution layer:**

**Reduces unnecessary peering**

**Speeds dykstra calculations**

**Speeds L3 convergence**

```
interface Vlan31
description Link to backbone
ip address 10.31.0.81 255.255.0.0
no ip directed-broadcast
ip hello-interval eigrp 1 1
ip hold-time eigrp 1 3
!
router eigrp 1
passive-interface Vlan10
passive-interface Vlan11
passive-interface Vlan12
passive-interface Vlan13
passive-interface Vlan99
network 10.0.0.0
```

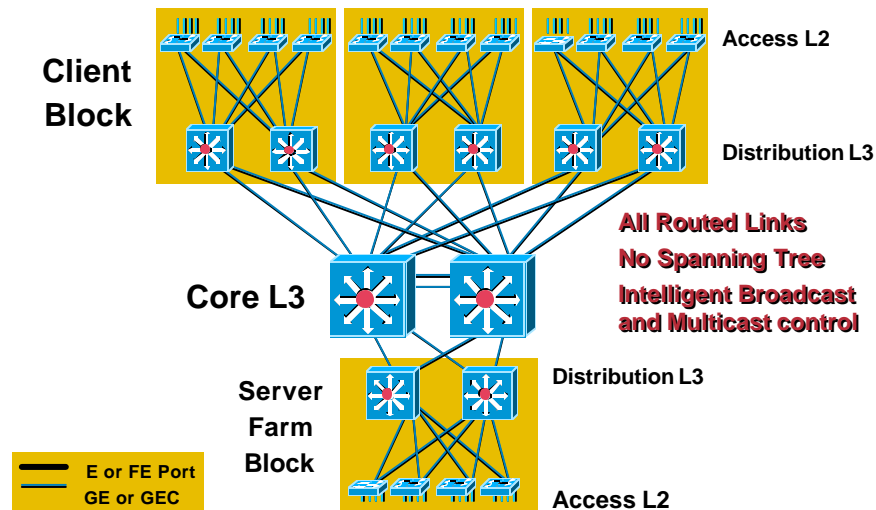
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## Layer 3 Backbone



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## Benefits of a L3 Backbone



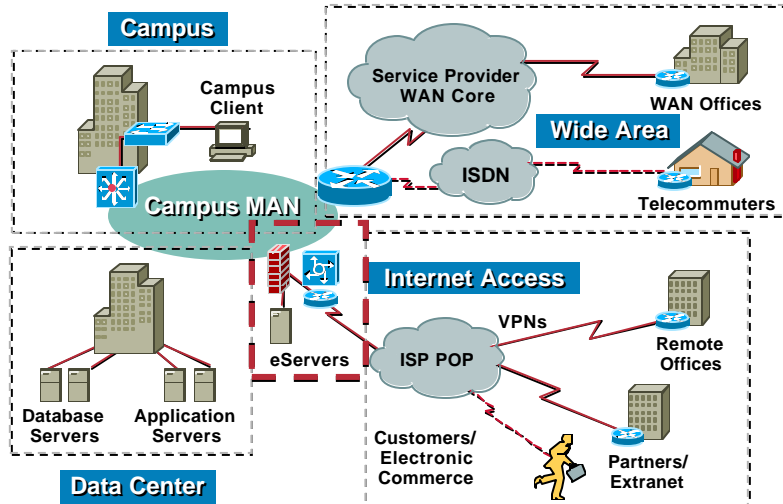
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- Multicast PIM routing control
- Load balancing
- No blocked links
- Fast convergence EIGRP/OSPF
- Greater scalability overall
- Router peering reduced
- Cisco IOS features in the backbone

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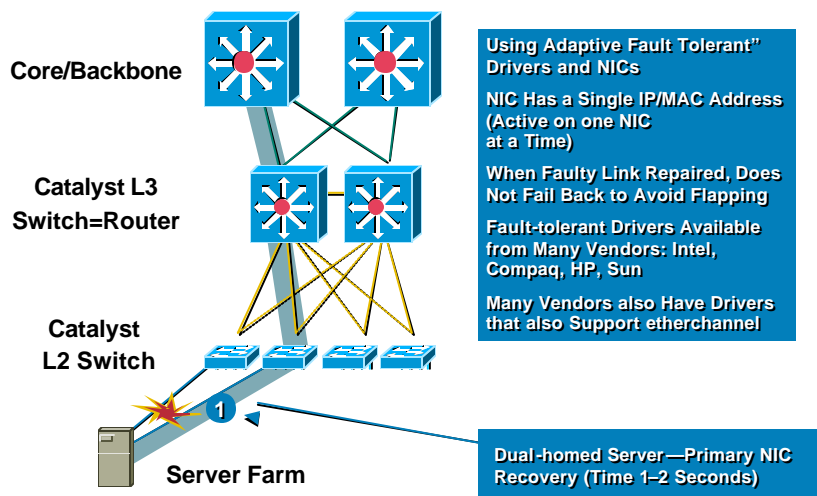
## Server Availability



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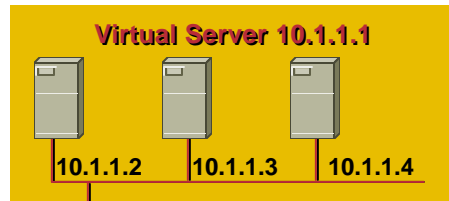
## Multi-homed Servers



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## Redundant IP Servers Using Server Load Balancing



User requesting 10.1.1.1 gets directed to one of several identical DNS servers. Eliminates the server as a single point of failure. Good backup strategy for TCP/UDP based servers

```
ip slb serverfarm WEB-FARM
real 10.1.1.2
inservice
real 10.1.1.3
inservice
real 10.1.1.4
inservice
!
ip slb vserver WEBSVR
virtual 10.1.1.1
serverfarm WEB-FARM
inservice
```

Requires either Cisco Local Director or an Cisco IOS SLB Image for the Cisco Catalyst 6XXX or the Cisco 7200

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## SLB—Flexible Configurations

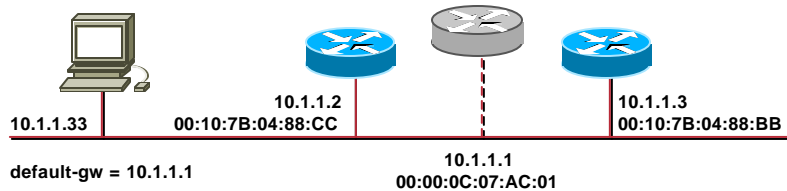


- Monitor the status of a server in a server farm and take it out of service
- Load-balancing between servers in a server farm
- Firewall load-balancing
- Redundant local directors
- Sticky connections
- Web Cache balancing
- WAP gateway balancing
- SYNGuard against DoS attacks
- Private and public servers
- NAT session redirection
- DNS, FTP, HTTP, HTTPS, IMAP, MATIP-A, NNTP, POP2/3, RealAudio/Video via HTTP, RADIUS, SMTP, Telnet, XOT

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## HSRP—Hot Standby Router Protocol



- Transparent failover of default router
- “Phantom” router created
- One router is active, responds to phantom L2 and L3 addresses
- Others monitor and take over phantom addresses

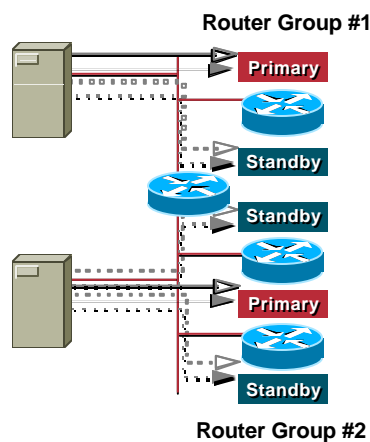
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## HSRP—RFC 2281



- HSRP multicasts hellos every 3 sec with a default priority of 100
- HSRP will assume control if it has the highest priority and preempt configured after delay (default=0) seconds
- HSRP will deduct 10 from its priority if the tracked interface goes down



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# HSRP

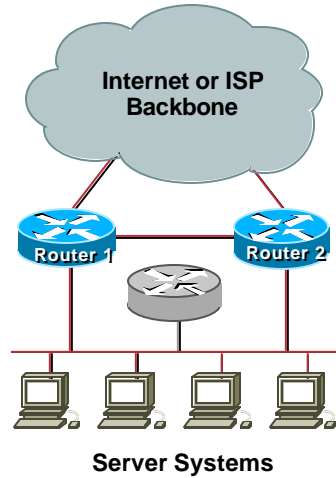


Technology

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```
Router1:
interface ethernet 0/0
bandwidth 128
ip address 169.223.10.1 255.255.255.0
standby 10 ip 169.223.10.254
```

```
Router2:
interface ethernet 0/0
bandwidth 1500
ip address 169.223.10.2 255.255.255.0
standby 10 priority 150 pre-empt delay 10
standby 10 ip 169.223.10.254
standby 10 track serial 0 60
```



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## Putting All Of It Together



Design

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### Resiliency Example

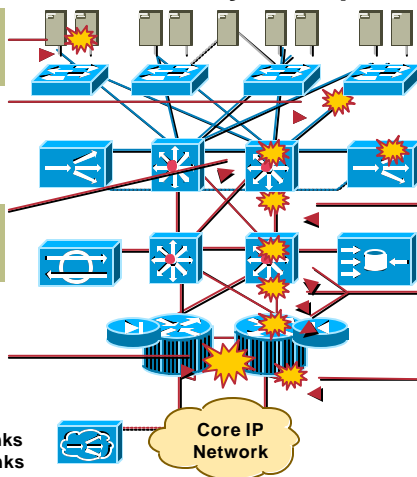
**Local Director** removes failed server from SLB (L4-7) (5 sec.)

STP forwards quickly after primary uplink failure with **UplinkFast** (L2) (2 sec.)

**HSRP** moves gateway to alternative gateway (L3) (2 sec.)

**Distributed Director** routes app request to alternative site if server or access fails (L3) (5 sec.)

VLAN Trunks  
Routed Links



**PortFast** for immediate STP forwarding for end stations (L2) (1 sec.)

Stateful fail over of SLB with serial link (L4-7) (2 sec.)

**HSRP-Track** moves gateway only when both uplinks fail

Routing protocol tuning allows for quick re-route (L3) (4 sec.)

Technologies like **DPT** allow for very fast IP reconvergence (L2-3) (2 sec.)

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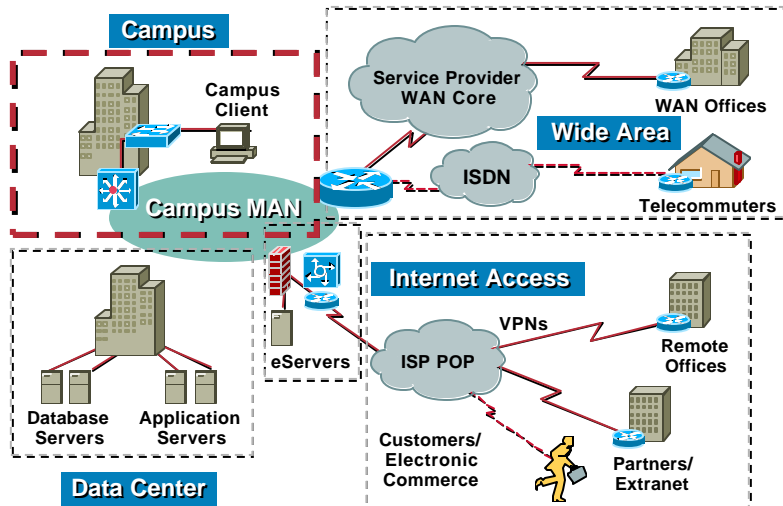
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## Campus Availability



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## Campus Backbone



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- Redundancy on the campus MAN varies depending on technology used
- Main choices are usually one of:
  - SONET/SDH
  - DPT/SRP
  - SRP or SONET/SDH over WDM
  - ATM
  - Gigabit Ethernet

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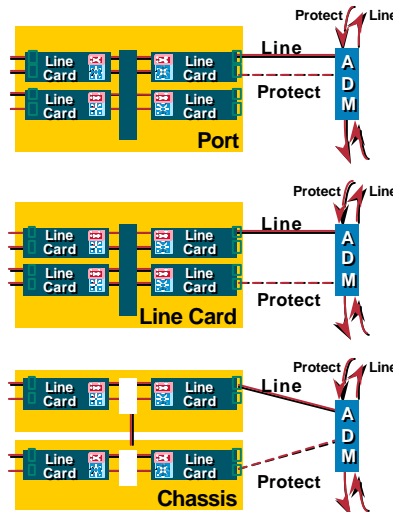
## SONET/SDH APS



Technology

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- Available on all SONET/SDH line cards
- Telcordia GR-253/ITU standards compliant
- K1/K2 link-layer control
- 3 levels of protection
  - Port failure
  - Line card failure
  - Router failure



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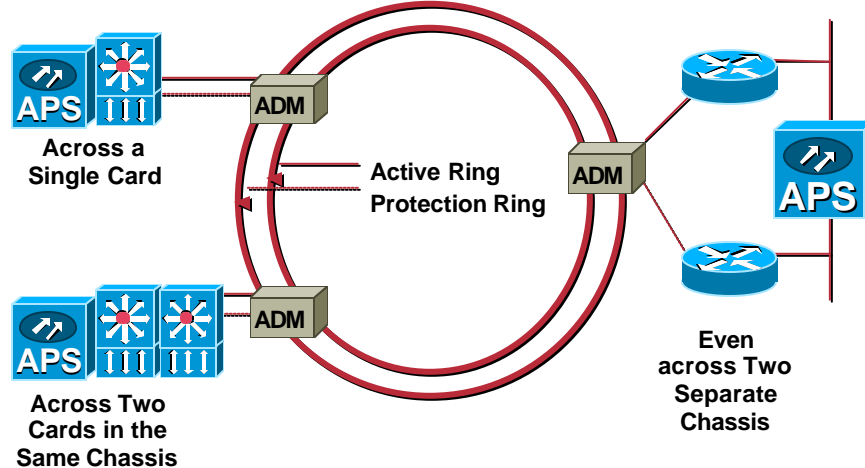
## APS: Automatic Protection Switching



Technology

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Provides Automatic Failover Protection for SONET/SDH Lines



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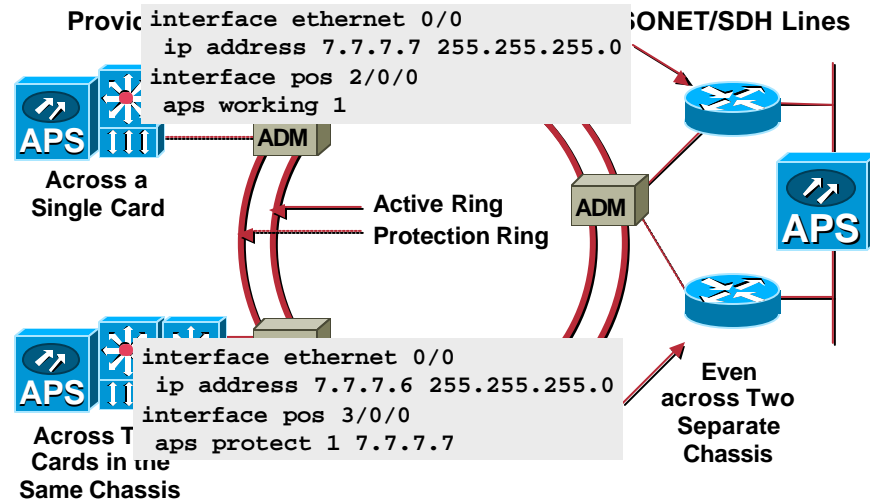
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## APS: Automatic Protection Switching

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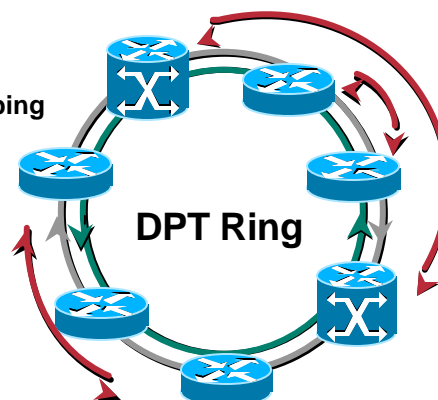
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## Dynamic Packet Transport

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- No protection bandwidth as in SONET/SDH—uses ring wrap
- Bandwidth consumed only on traversed—destination stripping
- Multiple nodes transmit concurrently
- Fairness via SRP-fa
- Self-healing through IPS
- Multicast and prioritization support



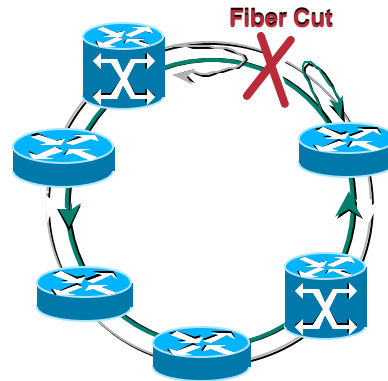
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# Intelligent Protection Switching



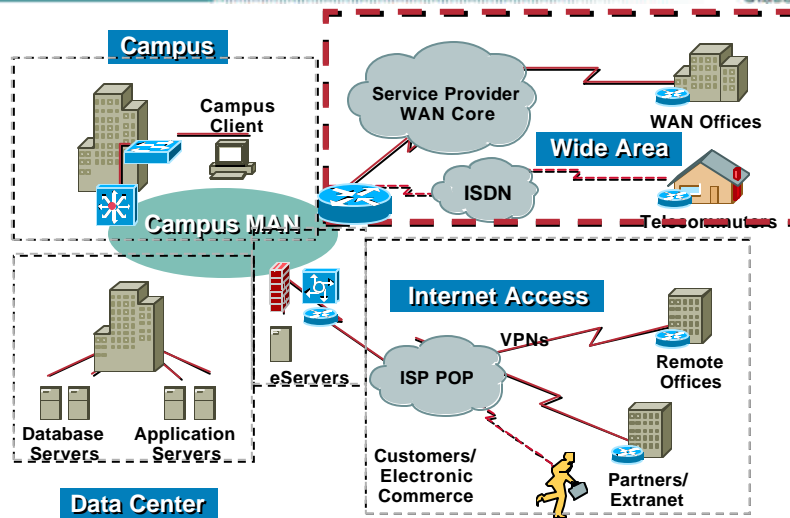
- Like SONET/SDH, DPT provides
  - Proactive performance monitor
  - and 50 ms self-healing via ring wrapping
- Unlike SONET/SDH, DPT provides
  - Signaling via explicit control messages
  - Multi-layer awareness and elastic cooperation
  - Differentiated handling by priority
  - Ring subnet, rather than point-to-point
  - Fast IP service restoration on large rings



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# WAN Availability



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## Circuit Diversity

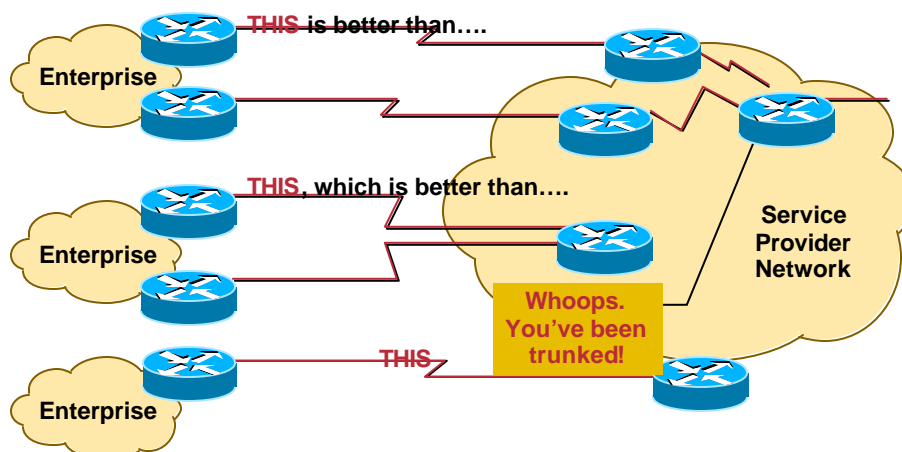


- Having backup PVCs through the same physical port accomplishes little or nothing
- Port is more likely to fail than any individual PVC
- Use separate ports, preferably on separate routers
- Try to have it written into your SLA that your backup path terminates into separate equipment at the service provider, and that your lines are not trunked into the same paths as they traverse the network

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## Circuit Diversity



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## Using MLPPP



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```
interface Multilink1
 ip address 172.16.11.1 255.255.255.0
 ppp multilink
 multilink-group 1
!
interface Serial1/0
 no ip address
 encapsulation ppp
 ppp multilink
 multilink-group 1
!
interface Serial1/1
 no ip address
 encapsulation ppp
 ppp multilink
 multilink-group 1
```

Multi-link PPP, if employed with proper circuit diversity, can provide redundancy to TDM lines. Has the value-added effect of increasing your bandwidth



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## Load Sharing



Design

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- Load sharing occurs when a router has two (or more) equal cost paths to the same destination
- EIGRP also allows unequal-cost load sharing
- Load sharing can be on a per-packet or per-destination basis (default: per-destination)
- Load sharing can be a powerful redundancy technique, since it provides an alternate path should a router fail

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## Load Sharing



Technology

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- OSPF will load share on equal-cost paths by default
- EIGRP will load share on equal-cost paths by default, and can be configured to load share on unequal-cost paths:

```
router eigrp 111
 network 10.1.1.0
 variance 2
```

- Unequal-cost load-sharing is discouraged; Can create too many obscure timing problems and retransmissions

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## Policy-based Routing

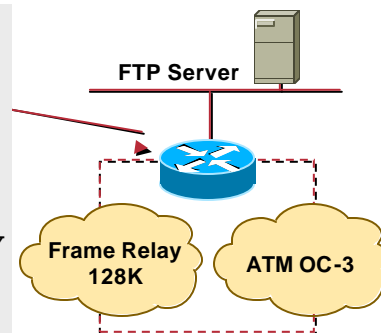


Technology

Cisco.com

- If you have unequal cost paths, and you don't want to use unequal-cost load sharing (you don't!), you can use PBR to send lower priority traffic down the slower path

```
! Policy map that directs FTP-Data
! out the Frame Relay port. Could
! use set ip next-hop instead
route-map FTP_POLICY permit 10
 match ip address 6
 set interface Serial1.1
!
! Identify FTP-Data traffic
access-list 6 permit tcp any eq 20 any
!
! Policy maps are applied against
! inbound interfaces
interface ethernet 0
 ip policy route-map FTP_POLICY
```



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## BGP Multi-path Load Sharing



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- If two identical eBGP paths are learned from the same neighboring AS, and maximum-paths is greater than 1, install up to maximum-paths into the routing table
- Otherwise, use the lowest router-id to break the tie, and install just a single route
- Up to 6 maximum-paths routes are permitted

```
router bgp 109
  network 131.108.0.0
  network 192.31.7.0
  neighbor 131.108.200.1 remote-as 167
  maximum-paths 3
```

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## Convergence



Design

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- The convergence time of the routing protocol chosen will affect overall availability of your WAN
- Main area to examine is L2 design impact on L3 efficiency
- For detailed comparisons of OSPF, EIGRP:
  - RST-207 deploying OSPF
  - RST-209 deploying EIGRP

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## Factors Determining Protocol Convergence



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- Network size
- Hop count limitations
- Peering arrangements (edge, core)
- Speed of change detection
- Propagation of change information
- Network design: hierarchy, summarization, redundancy

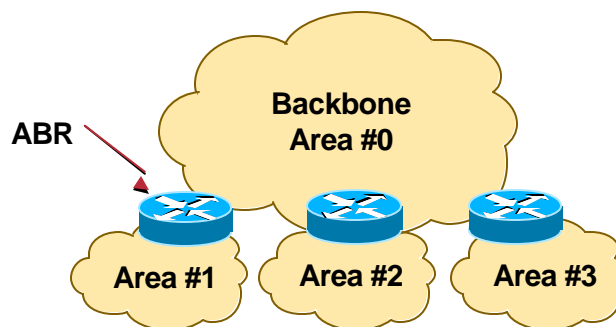
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## OSPF—Hierarchical Structure



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- Topology of an area is invisible from outside of the area  
LSA flooding is bounded by area  
SPF calculation is performed separately for each area

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## Methods to Improve OSPF Scaling



- Route summarization

On ABR:

```
router ospf 100
area 1 range 128.213.64.0 255.255.224.0
```

On ASBR:

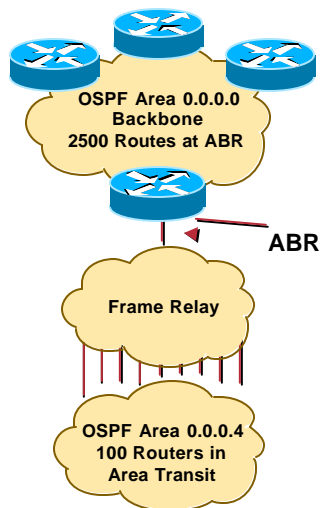
```
router ospf 100
summary-address 128.213.96.0 255.255.224.0
```

- Stub or not so stubby areas (NSSA)

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## OSPF Scaling



2500 Routes/  
~46 Routes per Summary LSA

~54 1500-Byte Packets Required\*  
100 Routers

5400 Packets\*  
1500 Bytes

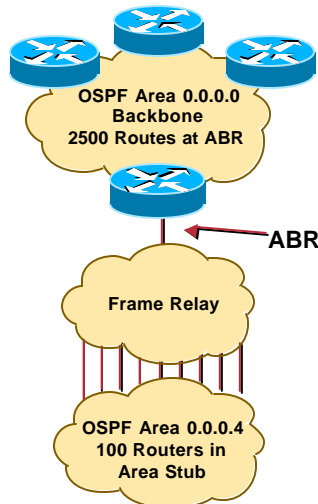
8100000 Bytes\*  
8 Bits =

~64.8 Mbps Bandwidth Requirement

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## OSPF Scaling—Stub Areas



52 Bytes Per Default-Route Packet\*  
100 Routers

5200 Bytes\*  
8 Bits =

~41.6 Kbps Bandwidth Requirement

```
router ospf 1
network 10.3.1.0 area 0
network 10.3.2.0 area 4
area 4 stub no-summary
```

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## EIGRP—Convergence



- **EIGRP will track successor routes**  
(alternate routes to be used in case of failure)
- **If a successor route is found, switchover occurs with no interaction with other routers; immediate convergence**
- **If no feasible successor routes exist, router sends a query to neighbors to find a route**
- **Because queries can stretch to the very edge of the network, makes sense to limit their scope**

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## Decreasing Query Scope

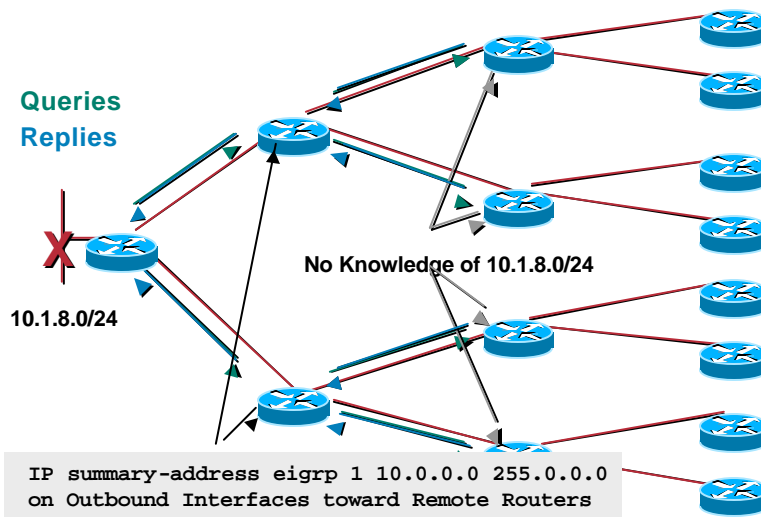


- **Summarization (manual or auto)**
- **Distribute-lists**  
Particularly on dual-homed remotes
- **Stub routers (release 12.0S)**  
Signals HUB router not to send queries

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## Decreasing Query Scope with Summarization



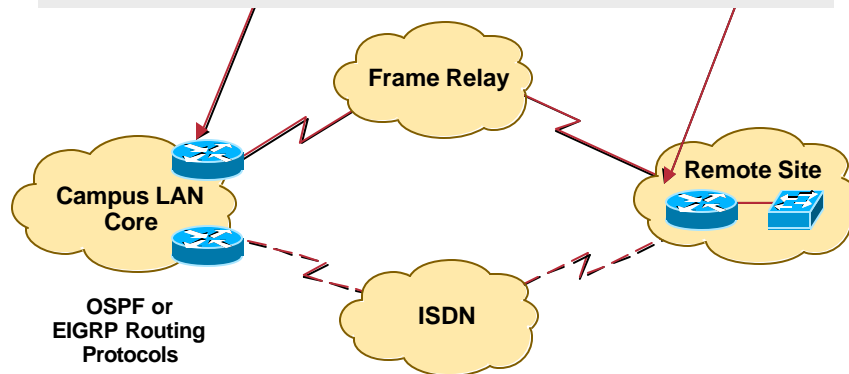
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## Dial Backup



```
map-class frame-relay vcgrp router1
frame-relay end-to-end keepalive mode bidirectional
```



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## Dial Backup



```
!--- password for other router defined
username ROUTER2 password 0 letmein
!
interface Serial0.1
 ip address 172.16.2.1 255.255.255.128
 frame-relay interface-dlci 102
!
interface BRI0
 description ISDN for frame relay
 ip address 172.16.3.1 255.255.255.0
 encapsulation ppp
 dialer map ip 172.16.3.2 name ROUTER2 broadcast 6234020
 dialer-group 1
!--- Floating static route defined below
ip route 172.16.4.0 255.255.255.0 172.16.3.2 200
!
!--- Dialer list defines interesting traffic
dialer-list 1 protocol ip list 101
!
```

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## VPN Backups



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- If WAN and internet access are separate, the internet can be leveraged as a backup path
- Since a tunnel will traverse the internet, some level of encryption is needed
- Many variations: L2TP, GRE, IPSec
- If you want to encrypt (you do...), need encryption—enabled version of IOS

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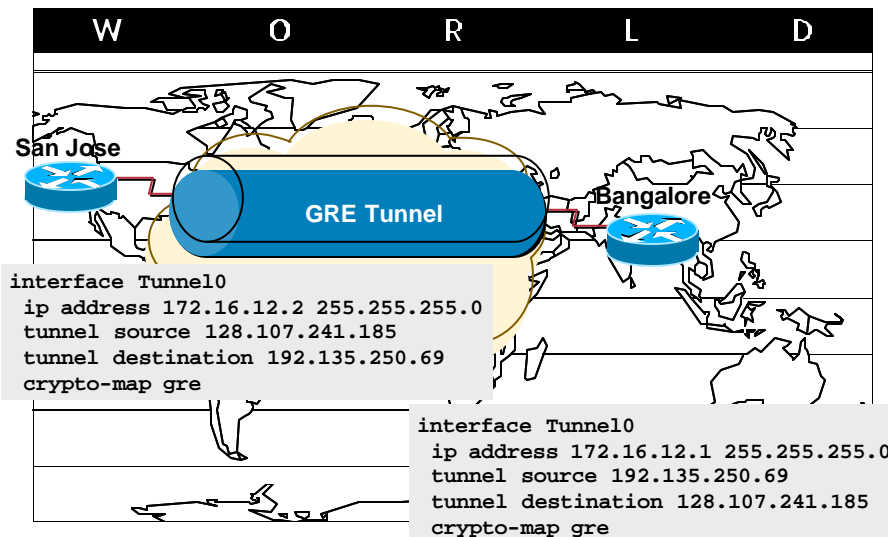
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## Site-to-Site VPN Example



Technology

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## Adding Encryption



Technology

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```
crypto isakmp policy 10
authentication pre-share
!
crypto isakmp key cisco123 address 192.135.250.69
!
crypto ipsec transform-set one esp-des esp-md5-hmac
mode transport
!
crypto map gre 10 ipsec-isakmp
set peer 192.135.250.69
set transform-set one
match address gre1
!
ip access-list extended gre1
permit gre host 192.135.250.69 host 128.107.241.185
```

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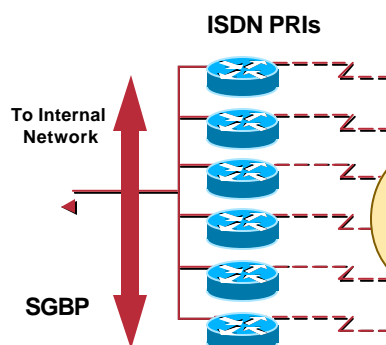
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## Multi-chassis MLPPP



Technology

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```
sgbp group stackq
sgbp member systemb 1.1.1.2
sgbp member systemc 1.1.1.3
!
username stackgroup password cisco
!
isdn switch-type primary-4ess
controller t1 0
framing esf
linecode b8zs
pri-group timeslots 1-23
!
interface Serial0:23
ip unnumbered e0
dialer map .....
encapsulation ppp
ppp authentication chap
dialer-group 1
dialer rot 1
!
ppp multilink
```

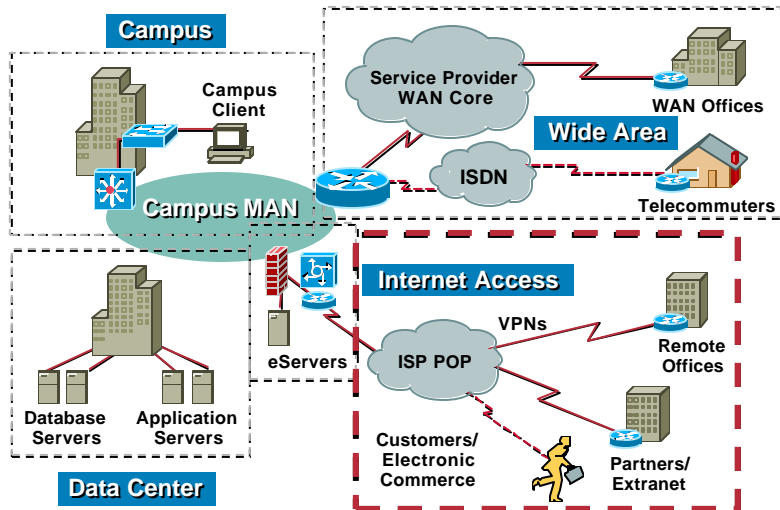
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## Internet Availability



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## Many of the Same Rules Apply



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- Routing to the internet is not significantly different than routing to any other WAN site
- Ensure proper circuit diversity
- Protect dual paths with HSRP and track interface
- Optimize routing via load-sharing and fast convergence



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## Do I Need BGP?



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### Questions to Ask:

Do I have more than one co-located paths to the Internet

### And

Do I, for cost, security or other administrative reasons, need to selectively route (or have traffic routed to me) over one path rather than the other?

### When Not to Use BGP

When you have a single path to the Internet. Use a static default route instead

When you have two paths to the internet but you don't care which way your traffic goes. Use two default routes (and possibly load-balance)

"My ISP says I need to use BGP so he can get the routes from my AS"

Run BGP, send your routes, but request that the ISP send you no routes. Use a default route

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## BGP Route Refresh Capability RFC2918



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- Facilitates non-disruptive policy changes—i.e. don't have to clear bgp session
- No configuration is needed
- No additional memory is used
- **Clear ip bgp x.x.x.x in | out**
- "in" => send route-refresh (new BGP message—type 5) request to neighbor
- "out" => withdraw and resend all routes to peer, via new policy

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# Operational Excellence

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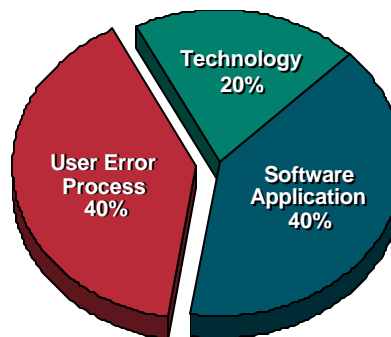


Process

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## User Error/Process

- Change management
- Process consistency
- Capacity management
- Configuration management
- Network security
- Change management



Source: Gartner Group

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## Process Goals



Process

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- **Consistent speedy repair times**

- Configuration management

- Fault management

- Performance management

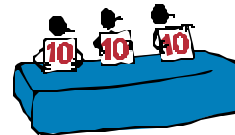
- **Quality improvement**

- Availability metrics

- Fault management metrics

- Root-cause analysis

- Performance indicators



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## Process Goals



Process

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- **Problem avoidance**

- Network design and resiliency

- Security

- Proactive fault management

- Capacity and performance management



- **Successful network evolution**

- Change planning management

- Testing and validation



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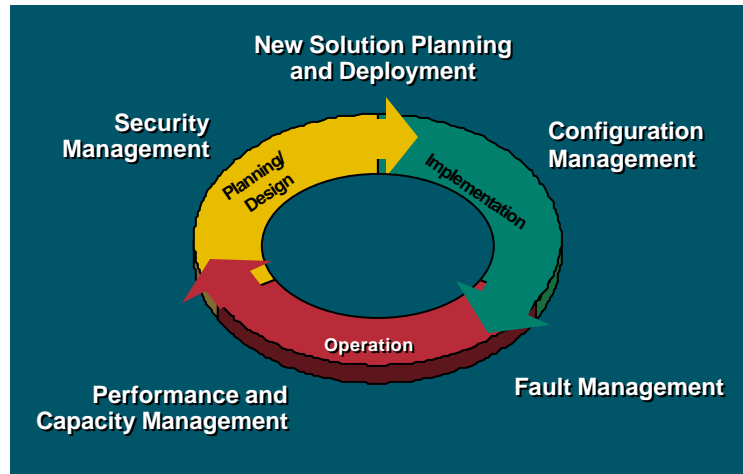
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# Network Life-Cycle Management



Process

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## New Solution Deployment



Process

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- Design review with vendor
- Test plan (to reflect your app/network scenarios)
- Lab validation
- Solution pilot
- Solution templates
- Staffing
- Training
- Operational support handoff



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# Configuration Management



Process

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- Maintaining configuration consistency
- Inventory management
- IP address management
- Software version control
- Password management
- Wiring and naming conventions
- Documentation



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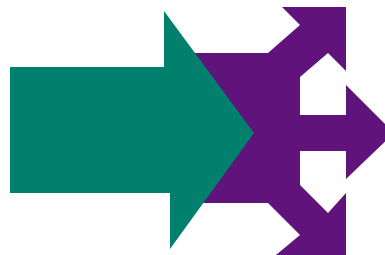
# Configuration Management



Process

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- Change Management
  - Change management procedures
  - Risk analysis
  - Testing/validation for high risk change
  - Backout plan
  - Network management and documentation update
  - Change management metrics



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## Performance and Capacity Management



Process

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- **Base-lining**
- **What-if analysis (network and application)**
- **QoS management**
- **Periodic review plan and upgrade criteria**
- **Exception management**

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## Fault Management



Process

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- **Fault management**
  - 24 x 7 detection, notification, escalation, resolution for link/hardware/network failures**
  - Proactive fault analysis plan (MIB variables, threshold violations, syslog events, review plan)**
  - Infrastructure (TFTP, syslog, NTP, time-stamps, out-of-band management, vendor access)**
  - Help desk systems (metrics, accountability)**

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# Security Management



Process

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- Internet access
- Dial-in access
- Partner access
- Security operations
- Internet/partner monitoring
- CERT/vendor advisory review
- Security configuration practices
- Termination practices

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# Process Tools



Technology

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**CiscoWorks Resource Manager Essentials**

**Configuration/Change/Inventory Management**

**CiscoWorks Device Fault Manager**

**Fault Mgmt**

**CiscoWorks Secure Policy Manager**

**Security Mgmt**

**Cisco NetFlow Accounting**

**Accounting and Capacity Mgmt**

**Interfaces to Oracle/Remedy**

**Problem Mgmt**

**CiscoWorks Internetwork Performance Monitor**

**Performance Mgmt**

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# Cisco Management Connection



<http://wwwin.cisco.com/cmc/cc/pd/wr2k/ent/>



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## In Summary

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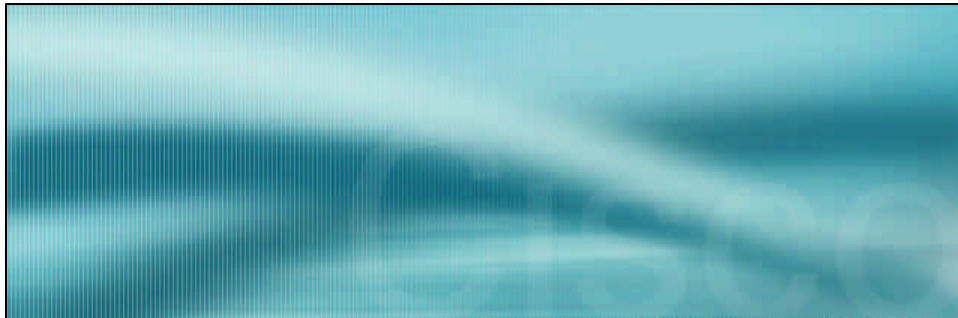
- Implementing a highly resilient IP network requires a combination of the proper process, design and technology
- “and now abideth design, technology and process, these three; but the greatest of these is process”



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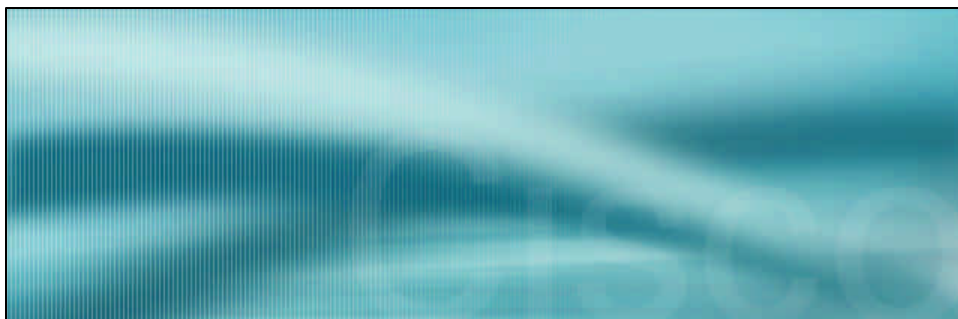


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# Deploying Highly Resilient IP Networks

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# Please Complete Your Evaluation Form

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